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United States
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Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Veterinary
Services

Amendments to
Brucellosis Eradication
Uniform Methods and Rules

Effective August 15, 1983

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CHAPTER I

Bovine Brucellosis

PART I

Definitions (not alphabetized: see contents for alphabetized reference)

A. Reactor¹

Official vaccinates of dairy breeds 20 months of age and over and official vaccinates of beef breeds 24 months of age and over (as evidenced by the presence of the first pair of permanent incisor teeth) or official vaccinates under these ages that are parturient (springers) or postparturient are classified serologically as reactors when they disclose complete standard plate test (SPT) or standard tube test (STT) agglutination reactions in the blood titer dilution of 1:200 or higher; are positive to the brucellosis card test where it has been the only test conducted; disclose titers of 25 percent fixation (1 plus) in a dilution of 1:40 or higher on the complement-fixation (CF) test; disclose a complete agglutination reaction in the 1:25 dilution or higher on the rivanol test; or are found infected by other diagnostic procedures such as isolation of Brucella abortus.

P. Official Vaccinate

1. Official Calfhoo Vaccinate

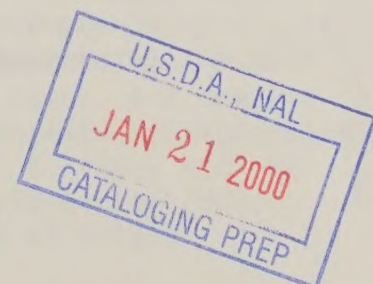
- a. For States administering an approved reduced dosage Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine containing at least 3 billion and not more than 10 billion live cells with an optimum of 5 billion live cells per 2 ml dose:

Female cattle of any breed or female bison vaccinated while from 4 through 12 months (120 through 365 days) of age with the optimum vaccination age of 5 months by a Veterinary Services representative, State representative, or accredited veterinarian with Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine in accordance with its labeling.

Vaccinated animals must be permanently identified as calfhoo vaccinates and reported at the time of vaccination to the appropriate State or Federal agency cooperating in the eradication of brucellosis.

- b. For States administering an approved full dosage Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine containing a minimum of 25 billion live cells per 5 ml dose:

¹ Also see Part II, I—"Classification of Cattle."



Female cattle of a dairy breed vaccinated by a Veterinary Services representative, State representative, or accredited veterinarian with Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine in accordance with its labeling while from 2 through 6 months (60 to 179 days) of age. Female cattle of a beef breed or female bison vaccinated by a Veterinary Services representative, State representative, or accredited veterinarian with Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine in accordance with its labeling while from 2 through 10 months (60 to 299 days) of age.

Vaccinated animals must be permanently identified as calfhood vaccinates and reported at the time of vaccination to the appropriate State or Federal agency cooperating in the eradication of brucellosis.

2. Official Adult Vaccinate

- a. For States administering an approved Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine containing at least 300 million and not more than 1 billion live cells with an optimum of 500 million live cells per 2 ml dose: Female cattle of any breed or female bison vaccinated beyond the age limit for official calfhood vaccination by a Veterinary Services representative, State representative, or accredited veterinarian with Brucella abortus Strain 19 vaccine as instructed by the Veterinarian in Charge and the State animal health official and as a part of a whole herd vaccination plan authorized by the State animal health official and the Veterinarian in Charge.

Vaccinated animals must be permanently identified as adult vaccinates and reported at the time of vaccination to the appropriate State or Federal agency cooperating in the eradication of brucellosis.

- S. Traceback of Reactors
 1. Successful Traceback of Reactors—A successful traceback occurs when the premises or herd of origin of a market test reactor, including those animals identified as reactors on laboratory confirmation of market test, is located and the herd (as defined in Part I, F) is tested as is deemed necessary. Tracebacks to dealers, commission firms, and such are not considered successful tracebacks of reactors if the investigation ceases at that point and all possible herds of origin are not tested. "Soldout" herds to be considered as successful tracebacks shall be confirmed by documentation of

slaughter and shall have no test-eligible cattle remaining. (See Part I, F, "Herd".) MCI reactors traced to such "soldout" herds shall not be included in the determination of the MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate but will be included in the determination of the Herd Infection Rate for State or area classification. (For exceptions, see Part V, C, 2, b, 3 and Part VI, C, 2, b, 3.) Tracebacks to feedlots (Part I, H) are successful and are to be treated as a herd. Tracebacks to quarantined feedlots (Part I, I) and to quarantined pastures (Part I, J) are successful and are reported as traced to known reactor herds. A preentry test of test-eligible cattle is strongly recommended for cattle entering these quarantined feedlots and quarantined pastures.

CC. Certificate

An official document issued by a Veterinary Services representative, State representative, or accredited veterinarian at the point of origin of a shipment of domestic animals which shows the individual identification tag, individual animal registered breed association registration tattoo, or individual animal registered breed association brand number, or registration number or similar identification of each animal to be moved, the number of animals covered by the document, the purpose for which the animals are to be moved, the points of origin and destination, the consignor, and the consignee. Herd brands may be used as identification on certificates for cattle being shipped interstate where brucellosis or other official tests are not required, provided the herd brands are registered with an official brand inspection agency and are accompanied by official brand inspection certificates.

**FF. Finished
Fed Cattle**

Cattle in a quarantined feedlot which have been on feed for a sufficient period of time to achieve the flesh condition desired by the slaughter establishments.

PART II

Procedures—Minimum Program Standards

I. Classification

1. Card Test—Card test results are classified as either negative or positive. The card test is to be used as an official test to classify cattle as reactors only under the circumstances listed below.
 - d. Market Cattle Identification (MCI) test samples are to be tested by the card test or an approved presumptive test (BAPA or RST). All presumptive test positive samples shall be retested using the card test or standard agglutination test. All samples positive to the card test or standard agglutination test, in the absence of further testing, will be reported as Market Cattle Identification (MCI) reactors and traced to the herd of origin.

9. Reclassification of Reactors—Animals initially classified reactors, including MCI reactors, under Part I, A, may be eligible for reclassification provided a complete epidemiological investigation of the herd is conducted and there is no evidence of brucella infection or exposure thereto; and, provided final classification is determined by a qualified brucellosis epidemiologist. The herd must remain under quarantine pending final classification.

M. Movement of
Restricted
Animals

Reactors, "B" branded exposed cattle, and "S" branded cattle must be moved under permit or "S" brand permit as appropriate. There shall be no diversion from the permitted destination. When moved, the cattle must be maintained separate and apart from all other classes of livestock in specially designed pens reserved for this purpose at Specifically Approved Stockyards or State-approved livestock markets or trucking facilities. These pens must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before being used for other than brucellosis-affected animals. Calves under 6 months of age which are nursed by brucellosis-exposed cows may move from the quarantined premises within 10 days after a negative brucellosis test on the dam. Calves under 6 months of age which are nursed by brucellosis reactor or exposed cows may also move from the quarantined premises provided they have been weaned for not less than 30 days immediately preceding the movement. However, officially vaccinated calves under 12 months of age and steers and spayed heifers of any age in a herd known to be affected but which is following an approved individual herd plan may move from any area into any area provided that the intact vaccinated heifers will be further identified with at least a 3/4" diameter hole in the left ear, unless such move is prohibited by the State Veterinarian of the receiving area.

4. Suspects—Suspects which are being moved or sold shall be identified and moved in the same manner as described for exposed cattle (see par. 2, above) except a vaccinated suspect(s) at a livestock market in a consignment of otherwise negative cattle (where the suspect is card positive on the presumptive test and negative to the CF or rivanol test(s)) may move as follows:

In a single consignment of cattle, which are from a producer's herd of origin, the owner shall either return the vaccinated suspect(s) under quarantine to the herd of origin until the suspect(s) is negative to the card test, declared a stabilized suspect by a designated epidemiologist after subsequent test(s) conducted in not less than 30 days, or classified a reactor on a subsequent test; or sell the suspect(s) to a quarantined feedlot, quarantined pasture, or to

slaughter, identified with an "S" brand. Card negative cattle in this consignment may return to the herd of origin or move to another premises within the State or interstate with permit.

- R. Whole Herd Vaccination Plan
 - 2. Herds Which are not Certified Brucellosis-Free--
Persons owning herds at high risk of becoming infected with brucellosis which are not Certified Brucellosis-Free may also request "whole herd" vaccination. The individual herd plan may then include the use of whole herd vaccination in addition to other recognized procedures for control and elimination of the disease. All eligible calves shall also be calfhood vaccinated and identified. Whole herd vaccination may be initiated only upon written permission of the State and Federal officials directly responsible for program activities in the States in which the herd is located. All animals so vaccinated shall be identified in addition to an official eartag by an open-ended "V" hot iron brand on the right jaw, or an official "AV" (adult vaccination) tattoo in the right ear or both. Following vaccination, only the adult vaccinated cattle will be placed under quarantine. Herds shall resume test no later than 6 months following the initial whole herd vaccination (except as provided by Part II W. Deadline exceptions). After vaccination, card test negative animals from herds not known to be affected may move without restriction provided they meet intrastate and interstate requirements and were negative at the time of vaccination. The herd will be eligible for release from quarantine with a negative test 120 days or more following vaccination.
- Y. Identification of Spayed Heifers
Spayed heifers may be officially identified by applying a hot iron brand to either or both jaws using an open spade design, as used in playing cards (♠), of not less than 2 inches nor more than 3 inches high.

Part IV

Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds of Cattle

- A. Qualifying Methods
A herd may qualify by one or more of the following methods:

1. Milk Ring Test (BRT)

Initial certification: A minimum of four consecutive negative milk ring tests conducted at not less than 90-day intervals, followed by a negative herd blood test conducted within 90 days after the last negative milk ring test.

3. Purchase of a Certified Free Herd

- a. No negative herd blood test is required when the cattle remain on the premises. A new certificate will be issued in the owner's name. The anniversary date and the herd number will remain the same.

- b. All or part of a Certified Free Herd purchased and moved directly to premises without other cattle may qualify without a test. A new certification number will be issued. The anniversary date of the new herd is established by the test date of the herd of origin or by a new herd test of the purchased cattle.

B. Qualifying

3. Testing Period

Initial certification: 10 to 14 months (minimum of 9 months if BRT is used).

- 7. Initial certification: A herd qualifies for initial Certified Brucellosis-Free Herd status when free of infection, all provisions for release of quarantine have been met, and the additional provisions required under Part IV, A, 1 and 2, have been met. A negative blood test and a complete epidemiological investigation may be used to resolve a suspicious BRT in qualifying a herd.
- 8. Movement of Cattle into a Certified Brucellosis-Free Herd:
 - c. From Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds or Class Free States or Areas—No test requirements on breeding or dairy cattle originating from Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds or Class Free States or Areas. Animals added to a Certified Brucellosis-Free Herd under this provision shall not receive new herd status for sale purposes until they have passed a 60-120 day postentry retest.
 - d. From Class A, B, or C Areas or States—Test-eligible cattle from herds not under quarantine must be blood tested negative for brucellosis within 30 days prior to the date of being moved. In addition, all other requirements for interstate or intrastate movement must be met. A 60-120 day postentry retest is required for all cattle purchased from noncertified free herds. Animals added to a certified free herd under this provision shall not receive new herd status for sale purposes until they have passed a 60-120 day postentry retest and have been included in an anniversary herd test.
- 9. Proof of Qualifying as a Certified Brucellosis Free Herd:
 - a. Initially a certificate will be issued.

- b. Recertification will be done by a renewal certificate showing only the certified free herd number, number of animals, and owner.

Part V

Class Free Status

C. Standards to Attain and Maintain Class Free Status

1. Surveillance

b. Market Cattle Identification Program

- (2) Reactors - At least 90 percent of market cattle reactors during each 12-month period must be traced to herd of origin and an investigation conducted as outlined in Part I, S, 2, b, within 15 days of official notification. In States with 20 or fewer MCI reactors, a special review may be made of justification for failure to meet tracing of 90 percent of reactors to herd of origin. When a herd blood test is indicated, it should be conducted within 30 days of official notification of market cattle test reactors or the herds are to continue to be confined to the premises under quarantine. (For exceptions see Part II, W.) Loss of status will occur if the herds of origin of rivanol or CF test positive market cattle reactors are considered suspicious after a complete epidemiologic investigation and are not tested within 6 months of official notification of the market cattle reactor.

2. Herd Infection Rate

- b. A complete epidemiologic investigation with appropriate test of adjacent and contact herds will be conducted on any herds of origin of MCI reactors in which all test-eligible cattle have been eliminated by slaughter. Should this investigation indicate the presence of field strain infection prior to the slaughter of the herd, the herd will be designated infected and the area will be reclassified as a Class A area.
- c. An epidemiologic investigation of each herd with reactor cattle shall be conducted within 15 days to identify the potential sources of infection. All potential sources shall be contacted to determine appropriate action within 15 days. Extenuating circumstances causing delays in contacting potential source herds must be documented in the case report submitted to Veterinary Services, Hyattsville, Maryland.

3. MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate

States should maintain a 12 months adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate not to exceed one reactor per 2,000 cattle tested (0.050 percent). The adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate is calculated by deleting from the numerator the market cattle reactors originating from known reactor herds, market cattle reactors traced to out-of-State origins, and market cattle reactors originating from herds of origin in which all test-eligible cattle were subsequently tested and found negative for brucellosis. A complete epidemiologic investigation with appropriate test of adjacent and contact herds will be conducted on any herds of origin of MCI reactors in which all test-eligible cattle have been eliminated by slaughter. Should this investigation indicate that this herd was infected with field strain brucella, the herd will be designated infected and the MCI reactors traced to this herd may be deleted from the numerator in determining the MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate. Should such an investigation indicate no field strain infection has occurred, the MCI reactors will be included in determining the MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate. Extenuating circumstances causing the rate to be above the stated rate must be documented in the annual report.

Part VI

Class A Status

C. Standards to 1. Surveillance

Attain and
Maintain
Class A
Status

b. Market Cattle Identification Program

- (2) Reactors - A minimum of 90 percent of the market cattle reactors during each 12-month period must be traced to the herd of origin and an investigation conducted as outlined in Part I, S, 2, b, within 15 days of official notification. In States with 20 or fewer MCI reactors, a special review may be made of justification for failure to meet tracing of 90 percent of reactors to herd of origin. When a herd blood test is indicated, it should be conducted within 30 days of official notification of market cattle test reactors or the herds are to be confined to the premises under quarantine. (For exceptions see Part II, W.) All market cattle test reactor herds shall be blood tested within 45 days of the official notification of the reactor unless an approved

written individual herd plan is on file which provides for a herd test after a longer interval. Loss of Class A status to Class B status may occur if the herds of origin of rivanol or CF positive market cattle reactors are considered suspicious after a complete epidemiologic investigation and are not tested within 6 months of official notification of the market reactor. Loss of status may not occur if legal action has been taken by the States to obtain a test and active legal proceedings are in progress.

2. Herd Infection Rate

- b. Herds of origin of MCI reactors in which all test-eligible cattle have been eliminated by slaughter shall be considered infected herds in the determination of the accumulated 12 months herd infection rate. Areas in the qualifying period for Free status shall be handled according to Part V, C, 2, b, under this section.
- c. An epidemiologic investigation of each herd with reactor cattle shall be conducted within 15 days to identify the potential sources of infection. All such potential sources shall be contacted to determine appropriate action within an additional 15 days. (For exceptions see Part II, W).

3. MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate

States should maintain a 12 months adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate not to exceed one reactor per 1,000 cattle tested (0.100 percent). The adjusted MCI prevalence rate is calculated by deleting from the numerator the market cattle reactors originating from known reactor herds, including market cattle reactors from herds in which all test-eligible animals have been eliminated by slaughter, market cattle reactors traced to out-of-State origins, and market cattle reactors originating in herds in which all test-eligible cattle were subsequently tested and found negative for brucellosis. Extenuating circumstances causing the rate to be above the stated rate must be documented in the annual report. Areas in the qualifying period for Free status shall be handled according to Part V, C, 3, under this section.

D. Movement of Cattle 3. Breeding Cattle

Within or
From Class A
States for
the Following
Purposes

- e. Official vaccinates under 12 months of age from quarantined herds with an approved written individual herd plan may move provided they are further identified with at least a 3/4" diameter hole in the left ear, unless such move is prohibited by the State Veterinarian of the receiving area.

Part VII
Class B Status

C. Standards
to Attain
and Maintain
Class B
Status

1. Surveillance

b. Market Cattle Identification Program (MCI)

- (2) Reactors - At least 80 percent of the market cattle reactors during each 12-month period must be traced to the herd of origin and an investigation conducted within 30 days of official notification. In States with 20 or fewer MCI reactors, a special review may be made of justification for failure to meet tracing of 80 percent of reactors to herd of origin. When a herd blood test is indicated, it should be conducted as outlined in Part I, S, 2, b, within 30 days of official notification of market cattle test reactors or the herds shall be confined to the premises under quarantine. All market cattle test reactor herds shall be blood tested within 45 days of the official notification of the reactor unless an approved written individual herd plan is on file which provides for a herd test after a longer interval. (For exceptions see Part II, W.) Loss of status may occur if the herds of origin of rivanol or CF test positive market cattle reactors are considered suspicious after a complete epidemiologic investigation and are not tested within 6 months of official notification of the market reactor. Loss of Class B status to Class C status may not occur if legal action has been taken by the State to obtain a test and if active legal proceedings are in progress.

2. Herd Infection Rate

- b. Herds of origin of MCI reactors in which all test-eligible cattle have been eliminated by slaughter

shall be considered infected herds in the determination of the accumulated 12 months herd infection rate.

- c. An epidemiologic investigation on each herd with reactor cattle shall be conducted within 45 days to identify potential sources of infection. All such potential sources shall be contacted to determine appropriate action within an additional 30 days. (For exceptions see Part II, W.)

3. MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate

States must maintain a 12 months adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate not to exceed 3 reactors per 1,000 cattle tested (0.300 percent). On January 1, 1984, the adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate will be reduced from 0.300 percent to 0.200 percent provided the annual review of the Brucellosis Committee of the United States Animal Health Association supports this change. The adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate is calculated by deleting from the numerator the market cattle reactors originating from known reactor herds, including market cattle reactors from herds in which all test-eligible animals have been eliminated by slaughter, market cattle reactors originating from herds in which all test-eligible cattle were subsequently tested and found negative for brucellosis, and market cattle reactors traced to out-of-State origins.

D. Movement of Cattle Within or From Class B States for the Following Purposes

3. Breeding Cattle

- e. Official vaccinates under 12 months of age from quarantined herds with an approved written individual herd plan may move without restriction provided they are further identified with at least a 3/4" diameter hole in the left ear, unless such move is prohibited by the State Veterinarian of the receiving area.

Part VIII

Class C Status

C. Standards to Maintain Class C Status

1. Surveillance

- b. Market Cattle Identification Program (MCI)

- (2) Reactors - At least 80 percent of the market cattle reactors during each 12-month period must be traced to the herd of origin and an investigation conducted as outlined in Part I, S, 2, b, within 30 days of official notification. When a herd blood test is indicated, it should be conducted within 30 days of official notification of market cattle test reactors or the herds shall be confined to the premises under quarantine. All market cattle test reactor herds shall be blood tested within 45 days of the official notification of the reactor unless an approved written individual herd plan is on file which provides for a herd test after a longer interval. (For exceptions see Part II, W.) Loss of status may occur if the herds of origin of rivanol or CF test positive market cattle reactors are considered suspicious after a complete epidemiologic investigation and are not tested within 6 months of official notification of the market reactor. Loss of status may not occur if legal action has been taken by the State to obtain a test and if active legal proceedings are in progress.

2. Herd Infection Rate

- b. Herds of origin of MCI reactors in which all test-eligible cattle have been eliminated by slaughter shall be considered infected herds in the determination of the accumulated 12 months herd infection rate.
- c. An epidemiologic investigation on each herd with reactor cattle shall be conducted within 45 days to identify potential sources of infection. All such potential sources shall be contacted to determine appropriate action within an additional 30 days. (For exceptions see Part II, W.)

3. MCI Reactor Prevalence Rate

The 12 months adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate exceeds three reactors per 1,000 cattle tested (0.300 percent). On January 1, 1984, the adjusted MCI reactor prevalence rate will be reduced from 0.300 percent to 0.200 percent provided the annual review by the Brucellosis Committee of the United States Animal Health Association supports this change. The adjusted

MCI reactor prevalence rate is calculated by deleting from the numerator the market cattle reactors originating from known reactor herds, including market cattle reactors from herds in which all test-eligible animals have been eliminated by slaughter, market cattle reactors originating in herds in which all test-eligible cattle were subsequently tested and found negative for brucellosis, and market cattle reactors traced to out-of-State origins.

D. Movement of
Cattle
Within or
From Class C
States for
the Following
Purposes

3. Breeding Cattle

- b. Test-eligible nonvaccinated cattle from other nonquarantined herds may move interstate if they have two consecutive negative tests at least 60 days apart. The second negative test must be within 30 days prior to movement. The first test is valid for 12 months. If the first test includes all the test-eligible animals in herds that have been intact 120 days or more such animals may move immediately following the negative herd test. The negative herd test is valid for 12 months. Animals moving from such negative herds must be tested negative within 30 days of movement. Animals moving under this provision must be accompanied by a written statement signed by the owner and accredited veterinarian or by other documentation which will establish that such animals originated from a herd which has been intact for at least 120 days prior to movement. A certificate is required from the State of origin and a permit for entry is required from the receiving State prior to interstate movement from a farm of origin directly to a farm of destination. Cattle may be moved interstate from a farm of origin without a certificate and prior permit for entry directly to a Specifically Approved Stockyard for the second negative test. A certificate is required for such test negative cattle subsequently moving interstate from a Specifically Approved Stockyard. A permit for entry is required from the receiving State prior to movement from the stockyards. The cattle must be quarantined at destination with a retest 45 to 120 days postmovement.
- f. Official vaccinates under 12 months of age from quarantined herds with an approved written individual herd plan may move without restriction provided they are further identified with at least a 3/4" diameter hole in the left ear, unless such move is prohibited by the State Veterinarian of the receiving area.

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